

Message Text

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ACTION HEW-02

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O 201519Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2086

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 1202

FOR DHEW/HOHMAN FROM SCIATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, RO

SUBJ: HEALTH EXCHANGE: PROPOSED DHEW TEAM VISIT

REF: STATE 051426, STATE 037330

FOLLOWING IS REPEAT OF BUCHAREST 1068 SENT ACTION SECSTATE,
INADVERTANTLY NOT SLUGGED FOR DHEW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 1068

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY, OSCI, RO

SUBJ: HEALTH EXCHANGE: PROPOSED DHEW TEAM VISIT

REF: STATE 051426, STATE 037330

1. BEGIN UNCLASS SECRETARY WEINBERGER'S LETTER RECEIVED AND
TRANSMITTED TO MINISTER BURGHELE FEBRUARY 28. MINHLTH OFFICIALS
CONFIRMED TODAY THAT DHEW TEAM WELCOME DURING REQUESTED DATES
MARCH 23 - APRIL 4 (REF A).

2. BASED ON ROUTINE DISCUSSIONS WITH EMBASSY SINCE SECRETARY
WEINBERGER'S VISIT LAST AUGUST, IT APPEARS MINHLTH HAS ALL
ALONG REGARDED DHEW TEAM VISIT AS CERTAIN AND HAS PLANNED
ACCORDINGLY. MINISTRY EXPRESSES REGRET THAT VISIT WILL BE
SHORTER THAN EXPECTED NECESSITATING REDUCED PROGRAM. POST
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REQUESTS SUMMARY OF TEAM MEMBERS' PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

AND SPECIAL MEDICAL INTERESTS SO MINHLTH MAY GUARANTEE APPROPRIATE INDIVIDUAL VISITS IN ADDITION TO THE GENERAL ITINERARY TO BE COMMUNICATED BY MARCH 19.

3. DHEW MAY EXPECT MINHLTH TO RAISE QUESTION OF A DIRECT AGREEMENT ON COOPERATIVE RESEARCH AND HEALTH EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE TWO AGENCIES. MINISTRY WILL DESIGN PROGRAM OF VISITS TO MAXIMIZE DHEW FAMILIARITY WITH EXPANDED EXCHANGE POSSIBILITIES. END UNCLASS.

4. BEGIN LOU DEPUTY MINISTER OF HEALTH MIHAI ALDEA CLOSELY INVOLVED WITH PLANNING OF TEAM VISIT. ALDEA HAS MAJOR FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR MINISTRY, INCLUDING SPECIFIC DECISION ON LONG-STANDING MATTER OF GOR RECEIPT OF LINEAR ACCELERATOR FOR RADIATION THERAPY. MINHLTH TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS HAVE ADVISED AGAINST ACCEPTING THE 4MEV US GIFT ACCELERATOR. WHILE SUCH A MACHINE WOULD MEET OBJECTIVES FOR CANCER THERAPY, IT WOULD BE OF NO LONG-RANGE BENEFIT TO ROMANIA SINCE GOR NOW EXPECTS TO FINISH BUILDING A SIMILAR MACHINE FOR OPERATION WITHIN THIS YEAR. OF COURSE A DOMESTIC MACHINE COULD BE MAINTAINED AT MUCH LOWER COST. A FOREIGN ACCELERATOR WOULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS ONLY IF IT WERE (A) POWERFUL ENOUGH FOR SHPHISTICATED RESEARCH, (B) ADEQUATE FOR PRODUCTION OF SHORT-LIVED ISOTOPES, AND (C) POWERFUL ENOUGH FOR STERILIZATION OF BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS (SERUMS). THEREFORE, MINHLTH REQUESTS USG CONSIDER THE ROMANIAN REQUEST FOR A 35 MEV ACCELERATOR. GOR PREPARED TO MEET ALL PROPORTIONALLY INCREASED COSTS ACCORDING TO FORMULA WORKED OUT FOR 4MEV MACHINE. EMBASSY REQUESTS DHEW PROVIDE RETAIL PURCHASE PRICE OF 35MEV MACHINE IN ADVANCE OF TEAM VISIT WITH UNDERSTANDING THIS INFORMATION IN NO WAY TIED TO ANY US DECISION ABOUT RENEWED GIFT OFFER TO GOR. END LOU.
BARNES

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